

REMARKS

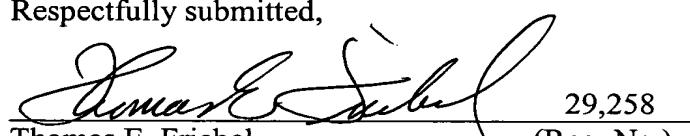
The specification has been amended to recite the claim to priority. Specifically, the specification has been amended to indicate that the present application is a continuation of U.S. application Serial No. 09/404,111, filed September 23, 1999. Applicant respectfully asserts that the amendments to the specification do not constitute new subject matter.

Applicant has canceled claims 1-16, without prejudice to Applicant's right to pursue the subject matter of the canceled claims in related applications. Applicant has amended claims 34 and 35 to correct claim dependencies due to the cancellation of claims. No new matter has been added by these amendments. Accordingly, upon entry of this Amendment, claims 17-35 will be pending in the present application.

Entry of the foregoing amendments and consideration of these remarks is respectfully requested.

Date: January 26, 2004

Respectfully submitted,


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